Madam SPEAKER.—Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,55,45,000 inclusive of the sum granted 'on account' be granted to the Government to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the financial year ending 31st day of March 1975 in respect of Demand No. 40 'Horticulture'".

Sri K. T. RATHOD (Minister of State for Fisheries).—On the recommendation of the Governor, I beg to move:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,32,17,000 inclusive of the sum granted 'on account' be granted to the Government to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the financial year ending 31st day of March 1975 in respect of Demand No. 47 'Fisheries'".

Madam SPEAKER.—Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,32,17,000 inclusive of the sum granted 'on account' be granted to the Government to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the financial year ending 31st day of March 1975 in respect of Demand No. 47 'Fisheries'".

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Re: *Alleged Payment of Bills without Receipt of Furniture in the Health Department.*

‡Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA (Minister for Health).—In response to an Adjournment Motion Notice of which is given by Shri Kagodu Thimmappa under Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Karnataka Legislative Assembly, Shri Kagodu Thimmappa made certain allegations against the Department of Health and F.P.S. stating that a sum of Rs. 11 lakhs has been paid to some firms without the supply of furniture to the Department.

I assured the House that I will make a detailed enquiry and make a statement. In pursuance thereof, I called all the Officers of my department and looked into the records. The Government Order regarding the purchase and supply of furniture at a total cost of Rs. 29,99,877 was passed on 31st October 1973 for equipping the categories of institutions mentioned in the annexure to that Government Order. Due to financial constraint only a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs was allowed to spend in the first instance. The procedure that is followed for all the purchases in the Department are:

The Procedure for making purchases of Hospital Equipments including furniture required by the Department of Health and F.P.

(SRI H. SIDDAVEERAPPA)

Services is that quotations are first called for and they are placed before the High Power Committee constituted by Government under the Chairmanship of the Commissioner for Health and Municipal Administration Department and with Director of Health and Family Planning Services, Commissioner for Finance or his representative as Members and the Deputy Director (Pharmacy) as Secretary. The recommendations of this Committee have to be approved by Government before they are implemented. The following firms submitted their quotations :

1. M/s. All India Agency
2. M/s. Mysore Woods
3. M/s. Trishul Enterprises
4. M/s. Vidyut Engineering Co.

These quotations were considered by the High Power Committee at its meetings held on 24th May 1973 and 26th July 1973. The items of furniture were required by the Rural Welfare Family Planning Centres attached to the Primary Health Centres (265), District Family Planning Bureau (19) and Family Planning Sub-Centres (1,177) and Offices of the Joint Director (FP and MCH), Joint Director (Information), Deputy Director (Transport). The items of furniture consisted of T.W. Examination Tables, Steel Cots, Steel Almirahas, T.W. Almirahas, T.W. Stools, T.W. Benches, T.W. Chairs, T.W. Tripod Stands with Towel Rack and Soap Trays, T.W. Screen, T.W. Table, T.W. Revolving Stools, T.W. Chairs with rattan bottom, Folding Chairs, Steel Racks, T.W. Side Tables, Wooden Boards to display Charts and Maps, etc.

The High Power Committee accepted the quotations of M/s. All India Agency and M/s. Mysore Woods for the supply of Wooden furniture and M/s. Trishul Enterprises and M/s. Vidyut Engineering Co., for Steel Furniture. The Committee, however, suggested that in view of the cut in the Central Allotment for Family Planning during 1793-74, overall expenditure should not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs in the first instance. The recommendations of the High Power Committee were approved by Government. Accordingly, the Director of Health and F.P. Services submitted his proposal for purchase of furniture for the various institutions under the Family Planning Programme in his letter, dated 22nd October 1973. Government in their Order No. HMA. 593 FPS. 73, dated 31st October 1973, sanctioned the purchases of furniture amounting to Rs. 29,99,877 for equipping the various categories of institutions under the Family Planning Programme with directions that the same should be purchased on a phased basis limiting the expenditure to Rs. 10 lakhs during the year 1973-74. Accordingly, furniture of the

value of Rs. 10 lakhs have been supplied by the firms to the various institutions in the Districts and in the Directorate before the end of January 1974.

The furniture costing Rs. 7,18,150-00 has been kept in the godown of the Regulated Market at Yeshwanthpur and 180 steel cots costing Rs. 90,000 have been kept in the K.R. Setty Pet Godown at the Avenue Road Cross, Bangalore-2 for want of space in the Departmental Godown. In the godowns of Sampangiramanagar and M.M. Estate, there is a stock of steel cots worth of Rs. 1,25,000. In the Directorate Godowns, there is furniture costing about Rs. 1,00,000. All this furniture is in the personal custody of the Deputy Director (Transport). Two lorry loads of furniture worth of Rs. 55,000 are under transit. The total furniture so far purchased, costs Rs. 18.41 lakhs. Since the Government of India released the additional funds in their letter dated 25th March 1974, the Director of Health and FPS was requested to utilise the amount fully to avoid any lapse of funds. Therefore, the Directorate had paid the balance of the amount of Rs. 8 lakhs to meet the pending bills of the furniture supplied. The payment made from 12th November 1973 onwards to 7th March 1974 to the firms is Rs. 10,12,022 and thereafter the payment made to the firms on 30th March 1974 is Rs. 8,29,138. The above is the position pertaining to purchase of furniture required for the various institutions under the Family Planning Programme. Thus, payment made on 30th March 1974 was Rs. 8,29,138 and not on 31st March 1974 of Rs. 11 lakhs as alleged.

India Population Project

India Population Project is jointly financed by the I.D.A. which is an affiliate of the World Bank and grant by the Kingdom of Sweeden in the proportion of 2:1, through the Government of India. Therefore, this Project is 100 per cent Reimbursable, which in turn earns dollars for every rupee spent for the Project.

The following are the general principles adopted towards the purchase of furniture for the India Population Project :

(*a*) Issue of extension orders with the firms which have already been approved by the High Power Committee for the purchase of furniture articles required for the Directorate of Health and F.P.Ss.

(*b*) The proposals for placing extension orders are placed before the Steering Committee of the India Population Project consisting of :

The Commissioner, Health and Municipal Administration Department .. Chairman

(SRI H. SIDDAVEERAPPA)

The Director of H. and F.P.Ss.	..	Member
The Director, Population Centre	..	"
The Project Family Planning Officer	..	"
The Director of Works ..	..	"
The Project Co-ordinator ..	..	"

(c) All Government Orders issued after approval of the Steering Committee are placed before the Government Board from time to time for ratification. The Governing Board consists of 15 Members headed by the Minister for Health as Chairman, the Chief Secretary as alternate Chairman and the Additional Secretary, Government of India as Member among other Members drawn from various department of Government.

Keeping in view the above guidelines, the question of purchasing various furniture articles required for equipping 323 sub-centres at Rs. 2,060 per sub-centre, at a total cost of Rs. 6,65,380 was placed before the Governing Board held on 24th May 1973, and it resolved among other things to purchase the furniture from M/s. All India Agencies and other public undertakings. It also resolved that orders may be placed with M/s. All India Agencies for the supply of furniture required to furnish 100 sub-centres only. Orders of Government was issued in Government Order No. HMA 155 IPP 73 dated 10th August 1973. Accordingly, orders were placed with this firm during December, 1973 for the supply of furniture articles required for 70 sub-centers as against 100 sub-centres sanctioned. The balance of furniture required for 30 sub-centers was placed with the firm on 11th January 1974.

With a view to facilitate the firm to effect supply of furniture articles, they were furnished with distribution lists of furniture articles required by the 5 Project Districts after ascertaining the requirements from the concerned District Health and Family Planning Officers. The firm in their leter dated 13th March 1974 stated that the furniture had been manufactured and kept in their godowns till such time the District Health and F.P. Officers take delivery. The firm preferred the bill for the supply of furniture for 100 sub-centres on 23rd February 1974 for Rs. 2,05,129-96 inclusive Sales Tax etc., The articles manufactured by the firm were inspected by a Gazetted Officer of the rank of Assistant Engine er of the Public Works Department with a view to ensure the quality. The District Health and F.P. Officers were addressed to take delivery of furniture articles. They intimated that there is no sufficient space for its storage since the sub-centre buildings of the Project are under various stages of construction. As against Rs. 2,05,129-96 preferred by M/s. All India

Agencies, Bangalore, 90 per cent payment amounting to Rs. 1,84,500 was made on 26th March 1974 after obtaining the necessary Bank Guarantee and Indemnity Bond with a view to fully utilise the Budget provisions.

From the foregoing, it is evident that the payment has been authorised on 26th March 1974 only after observing the usual formalities from may 1973 and not on 31st March 1974 as alleged.

10-30 A.M.

Besides the puchase of furniture for the Family Planning Schemes and for Schemes under the India Population Project, certain purchases have been sanctioned by the Director of Health and Family Planning Services under the powers delegated to him. He is empowered to buy furniture worth Rs. 20,000 in respect of each of the Colleges and teaching institutions and Rs. 15,000 in respect of each of the other institutions. The amount so sanctioned by him for the various institutions is for Rs. 75,377-08. Further, certain powers have been delegated to the various officers of the Directorate of Health and Family Planning Services as follows :

		Purchasing from Government undertakings and by observing Purchase Rules
1.	Deputy Directors including Regional Deputy Directors.	Rs. 5,000
2.	Deans	Rs. 10,000
3.	Superintendents of Major Hospitals ..	Rs. 2,500 each case.
4.	Assistant Directors	Do
5.	District Health and Family Planning Officers.	Do
6.	District Surgeons	Do
7.	Medical Officers in charge of institutions in grade Rs. 800—1,250.	Do

What purchases have been made by them have to be ascertained from each of the institutions spread over the entire State, but I can assure the House that the purchases so made would be relatively negligible.

(SRI H. SIDDAVEERAPPA)

The Furniture in custody of the Deputy Director (Transport) in various Godowns.

Godown 1—		
Regulated Market Godown Yeswanthpur—		
Steel cots 100 numbers	..	50,000
Steel Almirah 45 numbers (small)	..	16,650
Steel Almirah 250 numbers (big)	..	1,82,500
Steel racks 100 numbers (small)	..	1,62,000
Steel racks 500 numbers (big)	..	1,85,000
Folding chairs 200 numbers	..	10,000
Cot frame and steel racks (Angles)	..	1,12,000
Godown 1—		
K. R. Settypet, Avenue Road Cr.—		
Steel Cots 180 numbers	..	90,000
Godown 3—		
M. M. Estate and Sampangirama Nagar—		
Steel cots 250 numbers	..	1,25,000
Godown 4—		
Director of Health Services— (2 sheds)	..	1,00,000
On transit—		
2 Lorry Loads	..	55,000
Total	..	10,88,150

The names of Districts where the supply has been effected from November 1974 to end of January 1975.

1. Bangalore
2. Kolar
3. Shimoga
4. Gulbarga
5. Chikmagalur
6. Mandya
7. Karwar
8. Mangalore

9. Mysore
10. Bellary
11. Raichur
12. Chitradurga
13. Belgaum
14. Bijapur

Note.—They supply lifted amounts to Rs. 7, 52,934.

In G.O. No. HMA. 593/IDS 73, dated 31st October 1973, it is ordered that the Deputy Director shall certify the quantity of furniture, before payments are made to the firms. Accordingly, the Godowns were inspected for quality and quantity and they are taken to my custody as per statements enclosed and the relevant keys are with me.

In this connection, I wish to add that I have arranged for distribution of these articles to the various officers in Karnataka State.

(This is the Note by the Deputy Director, Transport).

Madam, so far this is the position about the purchase and supply of furniture in the Department. I would humbly request my friends whenever they feel there is something, let them come to me. I am not questioning their authority of asking abobut the transaction of the Government. But, I would request them to see me and ask me for anything they want. I am not a stranger to them. I am prepared to take them and show them anything they want. There is nothing to hide or make hush hush. After all you are also doing something for the good of the public at large. But, if you go on telling like this without knowing the facts, I don't know where we are going at this rate. If that is the case, I think it is very difficult to accept the place of a Minister. However, fortunately, they have not made any personal allegations against me. But, when an allegation is made against the Department for which I am responsible, and when something is brought to my notice, I can't keep quiet. For example last year when something came to my notice I immediately on my own initiative held an enquiry through the Vigilence Commission about the purchase of medicines. So, there is nothing wrong in coming and telling me about anything. As we all know, and Mr. Thimmappa also knows as Taluk Board President, how many bills we send at the end of March of every year. So far as we are concerned we are only accepting bills upto 31st March 1974. It is very difficult to get money. When the money is very scarce, the Government order has been passed after a great deal of deliberations. Therefore, to say that we are paying more without taking delivery of the goods, in my respectful submission is not correct. I don't want to countenance about the feelings of my friends. Even now if they want to see the goods they are welcome

(SRI H. SIDDAVEERAPPA)

to do it. But, my only request is let them write to me instead of going and asking there.

Because they are terrified when they see M.L.As, they are so much afraid of these people, particularly when they know the names of these people. Because, every day, their names appear in the press. Therefore, I feel that they must be able to satisfy me in this respect.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕಾಗೋಡು ತಿಮ್ಮಪ್ಪ,—ತಮ್ಮ ಸ್ಟೇಟ್‌ಮೆಂಟನ್ನು ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಸ್ಕ್ರುಟಿನಿ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ತಾವು ಕೆಲವು ನಮಾಚಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಕೆಲವು ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಭೆಯ ಮುಂದಿಡಬೇಕು. ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ 1972-73ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟದ್ದು ಇದೆ. ಎಷ್ಟು ಫರ್ಮ್ಸ್‌ನಿಂದ ಕೊಟೇಷನ್ ಬಂದಿದೆ ; ಬಂದಿದ್ದರಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದು ಯಾವುದನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದೀರಿ ; ಕೊಟೇಶನ್ ಯಾರಯಾರಿಂದ ಬಂದಿತ್ತು ? 1972-73ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಡರ್ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದೀರಿ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಚ್. ಸಿದ್ದವೀರಪ್ಪ,—ನಿಮಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನೂ ಒದಗಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕಾಗೋಡು ತಿಮ್ಮಪ್ಪ.—ನಪ್ಲೆ ಗೋಡೌನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿದ್ದರೆ, ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಗ್ಯಾರಂಟಿ ತೆಗೆದು ಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರೆ, ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟದ್ದು ಎಲ್ಲವನ್ನೂ ನೋಡಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಆರ್ಡರ್ ಕೊಡುವಾಗ ಯಾವ ಜಾತಿ ಮರಗಳನ್ನು ಆರ್ಡರ್ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದೀರಿ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಚ್. ಸಿದ್ದವೀರಪ್ಪ.—ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಟೀಕ್ ಉಡ್ ಮರಗಳು.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೋಣಂದೂರು ಲಿಂಗಪ್ಪ.—ನಚಿವರು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿರತಕ್ಕ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಗೋಡೌನ್‌ಗಳ ಹೆಸರುಗಳನ್ನು ಹೇಳಿದರು. ಅವಕ್ಕೆ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಗ್ಯಾರಂಟಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದೀರಾ ?

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—As I have said it is in Government Godowns. ನಮಗೆ ಏನು ನಪ್ಲೈ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ, ಅವನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಗೋಡೌನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಎಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾಗವಿಲ್ಲ, ಅಂಥ ಕಡೆ ಅವರ ಗೋಡೌನ್‌ನಲ್ಲೆ ಇಟ್ಟಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಬೇಗದ ಕೈ ನಮ್ಮ ಕೈಯಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಇದೆ. ಫಿಜಿಕಲ್ ಪೊಸೆಷನ್ ಇದೆ. In fact they are pressing us to take them away. Not only that, when we place orders, they say that whatever money is there, please pay them and take the goods.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೋಣಂದೂರು ಲಿಂಗಪ್ಪ.—ಮೇಸರ್ಸ್ ಅಲ್ ಇಂಡಿಯಾ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ...

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು.—ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಬಂದು ಕೇಳಿದ ಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವಿವರ ಒದಗಿಸುತ್ತೇವೆಂದು ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY.

Re.: Supply of Fertilisers in the State

Sri N. CHICKE GOWDA (Minister for Agriculture and Animal Husbandry).—

The Karif season in the State of Karnataka generally starts in the middle of June. In certain parts, however, the season starts as early as the middle of April. These parts are confined to the Districts of Mysore and certain parts of Hassan, Chickmagalur, Shimoga and South Kanara.